

	<p><b>KLAMATH NATIONAL FOREST</b></p> <p>1711 South Main Street Yreka, CA 96097</p> <p>(530) 841-6131 <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/klamath">www.fs.usda.gov/klamath</a></p>	<h1>News Release</h1>	<p><b>CAL FIRE</b></p> <p>1809 Fairlane RD Yreka, CA 96097</p> <p>(530)842-3516 <a href="http://www.fire.ca.gov">www.fire.ca.gov</a></p>	
<p>Kerry Greene 530-841-4485</p>	<p><b>FIRE PALS</b></p>		<p>Suzi Brady 530-842-3516</p>	

## **CAL FIRE and US Forest Service team up to bring fire prevention and life safety messages to Siskiyou County Schools**

**Yreka, CA-** Each year in honor of National Fire Prevention Week the Siskiyou County Fire PALS visit area schools to share important safety messages with students from kindergarten to 5th grade.

The FIRE PALS (FIRE PALS stands for Fire Prevention and Life Safety) is a group of agency professionals from both the Forest Service and CAL FIRE who bring characters like Axe and Ember to life to teach kids that matches and lighters are tools not toys. Other messages that will be covered in this year's school programs include calling 911 in an emergency, exit drills in the home, what to do if you get lost in the woods and seatbelt and helmet safety.

This November the Fire PALS will be visiting schools in Happy Camp, Seiad, Hornbrook, Little Shasta, Butteville, Willow Creek, Montague, Grenada and Weed.

“We try to visit each school in Siskiyou County at least every other year”, said Fire PALS participant and Klamath National Forest Public Affairs Officer Kerry Greene. “Geographically our County is so big, it’s hard to get to all the schools in one week a year, but we think it’s important to reach as many kids as we can with these important and life-saving messages. If just one serious accident or fire is prevented by kids hearing our safety messages all of our efforts to bring this program to the schools will be worthwhile.” The Siskiyou County Fire PALS also appear on stage at the Siskiyou County Fair each summer.

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